

Table 7.10. Percent of lands by seral condition on public lands managed by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management in 2003<sup>a,b</sup>. Potential natural climax = 76-100% similar; late seral = 51-75% similar; mid-seral = 26-50% similar; early seral = 0-25% similar<sup>c</sup>.

	% Inventoried	Potential Natural Community	Late Seral	Mid- Seral	Early- Seral	Unclassified
Arizona	76	6	32	26	7	30
California	16	3	20	43	30	4
Colorado	58	5	20	40	18	27
Idaho	54	3	27	38	27	5
Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota	78	7	58	21	1	13
Nevada	54	3	27	31	8	31
New Mexico	80	4	30	41	22	3
Oregon and Washington	82	1	21	45	11	23
Utah	62	11	28	42	13	6
Wyoming	56	24	34	27	5	10
Total	61	7	29	34	11	18

<sup>a</sup><http://www-a.blm.gov/natacq/pls03/>

<sup>b</sup>Statistics are reported for 2003 although surveys to classify sites may have been conducted in other years.

<sup>c</sup>A common qualitative characterization of plant communities is for potential natural communities to be considered as in “excellent condition”, late seral stages to be “good”, mid-seral to be “fair”, and early seral to be “poor”. Because these terms may not accurately describe current understanding of succession dynamics in sagebrush ecosystems (West 2003), the U.S. Bureau of Land Management is considering changes to standards and guidelines that indicate “rangeland health” (U.S. Bureau of Land Management 2003b) (Table 7.11).